

Sub 01  
--21. An apparatus comprising:

means for connecting electronically an electronic intermediary to a tax data provider;  
means for collecting electronically tax data from said tax data provider;  
means for processing electronically said tax data collected from said tax data provider to obtain processed tax data; and  
means for preparing electronically an electronic tax return using said processed tax data.

22. An apparatus as in claim 21, wherein said means for connecting electronically an electronic intermediary to a tax data provider uses an electronic link, and wherein means for collecting electronically tax data from said tax data provider uses an electronic link.

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23. An apparatus as in claim 22, wherein said electronic link is an electronic data network.

24. An apparatus as in claim 23, wherein said electronic data network is the Internet.

25. An apparatus as in claim 24, wherein said tax data provider is an employer, a partnership, a bank, a savings and loan institution, a mortgage institution, a credit card bureau, a thrift institution, a securities brokerage firm, a mutual fund holding institution, or a charity.

Sub 02  
26. A computer-readable medium embodying a computer program, said computer program comprising code segments for:

connecting electronically an electronic intermediary to a tax data provider;

collecting electronically tax data from said tax data provider;  
processing electronically said tax data collected from said tax data provider to obtain  
processed tax data; and  
preparing electronically an electronic tax return using said processed tax data.

27. An apparatus comprising:

means for connecting electronically an electronic intermediary to a taxpayer; and  
means for receiving electronically information on at least one tax data provider from said  
taxpayer.

28. An apparatus as in claim 27, wherein said means for connecting electronically an  
electronic intermediary to a taxpayer uses an electronic link, and wherein said means for  
collecting electronically information on at least one tax data provider from said taxpayer uses an  
electronic link.

29. An apparatus as in claim 28, wherein said electronic link is an electronic data  
network.

30. An apparatus as in claim 29, wherein said electronic data network is the Internet.

31. An apparatus as in claim 27, wherein said at least one tax data provider is an  
employer, a partnership, a bank, a savings and loan institution, a mortgage institution, a credit

card bureau, a thrift institution, a securities brokerage firm, a mutual fund holding institution, or a charity.

32. An apparatus as in claim 27, further comprising:  
means for connecting electronically said electronic intermediary to one of said at least one tax data provider; and  
means for collecting electronically tax data from said one of said at least one tax data provider.

33. An apparatus as in claim 32, further comprising:  
means for processing electronically said tax data collected from said one of said at least one tax data provider to obtain processed tax data; and  
means for preparing electronically an electronic tax return using said processed tax data.

34. A computer-readable medium embodying a computer program, said computer program comprising code segments for:  
connecting electronically an electronic intermediary to a taxpayer; and  
receiving electronically information on at least one tax data provider from said taxpayer.

35. A computer-readable medium as in claim 34, said computer program further comprising code segments for:  
connecting electronically said electronic intermediary to one of said at least one tax data provider; and

collecting electronically tax data from said one of said at least one tax data provider.

36. A computer-readable medium as in claim 35, said computer program further comprising code segments for:

processing electronically said tax data collected from said one of said at least one tax data provider to obtain processed tax data; and

preparing electronically an electronic tax return using said processed tax data.

37. An apparatus comprising:

means for connecting electronically a tax data provider to an electronic intermediary; and  
means for providing electronically tax data from said tax data provider to said electronic intermediary.

38. A computer-readable medium embodying a computer program, said computer program comprising code segments for:

connecting electronically a tax data provider to an electronic intermediary; and  
providing electronically tax data from said tax data provider to said electronic intermediary.

39. An apparatus comprising:

means for connecting electronically a taxpayer to an electronic intermediary; and  
means for providing electronically information on at least one tax data provider from said taxpayer to said electronic intermediary.